



Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot

City of Stamford, CT

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5101)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Stamford for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The City of Stamford will manage the Brownfields Job Training Pilot, Brownfields Assessment Pilot, and Showcase Community Initiative. The Job Training Pilot will target Stamford's South End and Waterside communities (population 8,300), which are located on Long Island Sound in Stamford's state-designated Enterprise Zone. South End residents are 44 percent African-American and 35 percent Hispanic, with a personal income less than half of the city-wide average. Waterside residents are 77 percent minority, and suffer from a 25 percent poverty rate and higher-than-average unemployment.

The Pilot area contains numerous brownfields interspersed with commercial and residential properties. The city is conducting a comprehensive revitalization effort in these communities, including a Dock Street Connector project that will improve transportation to the harbor area. The economic distress of South End and Waterside and the revitalization efforts of the city indicate of need for environmental training in these two neighborhoods.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*City of Stamford,
Connecticut*

Date of Announcement:
May 1999

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot will train 35 participants as environmental technicians. Students will be recruited from the primarily minority and distressed Waterside and South End neighborhoods, which are located in a state Enterprise Community on the shores of Long Island Sound.

Contacts:

City of Stamford
(203) 977-4190

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 1
(617) 573-9681

Visit the EPA Region 1 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region01/remed/brnflld/>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

The City of Stamford plans to train 35 residents with the EPA grant, achieve a 75 percent placement rate, and track graduates for one year after completion of the training. The Pilot will target low-income residents of the South End and Waterside communities. The Pilot training program will consist of a 25 credit-hour environmental technician course, including training in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies.

The training efforts of the city of Stamford will be supported by organizations such as CTE, Inc. (a community action agency for the city), Norwalk Community Technical College, EnviroMed Services, Inc., the Stamford Area Commerce and Industry Association, and the Waterside Coalition. The state Enterprise Zone designation requires environmental contractors to hire local residents.

ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting outreach to recruit low-income residents of the South End and Waterside communities;
- Conducting environmental technician training, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Supporting career placement of graduates for one year after the job training is completed.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.